

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 02518 061110Z  
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2599  
INFO USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 708

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FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CVIS, PFOR, OTRA (CORNEL PACOSTE), SOPN, RO  
SUBJECT: VISIT OF DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER PACOSTE

1. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CORNEL PACOSTE TOLD ME APRIL 5 THAT HIS UNEXPECTED TRIP TO THE US (WE HAD RECEIVED HIS VISA APPLICATION THE DAY BEFORE) WAS IN CONNECTION WITH REVIEWING ROMANIAN UN MISSION AND ROMANIAN EMBASSY SPACE NEEDS. PACOSTE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MFA ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS AS WELL AS FOR SUPERVISING SECOND DIRECTORATE (DEVELOPING COUNTRIES), CONSULAR AND PROTOCOL SECTIONS. AT THIS STAGE, HE EXPECTS TO BE IN NEW YORK APRIL 7 THROUGH 10 AND IN WASHINGTON THE 11TH AND 12TH. IN NEW YORK, PACOSTE SAID HE WILL REVIEW PLANS FOR CONSOLIDATING ROMANIAN OPERATIONS IN NEW OFFICE BUILDING (ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SAY SO, I IMAGINE HE MAY WANT TO GET INTO THE QUESTION OF NEW YORK POLICE PROTECTION ALSO). IN WASHINGTON HE'LL BE LOOKING AT POSSIBILITIES OF ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR ROMANIAN EMBASSY.  
I TOLD HIM IF ROMANIAN EMBASSY MOVED OR EXPANDED

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PAGE 02 BUCHAR 02518 061110Z

WE MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN TRYING TO ARRANGE A DEAL WHEREBY WE COULD PURCHASE PRESENT CHANCERY AND RESIDENCE HERE.

2. SINCE THIS WILL BE PACOSTE'S FIRST VISIT TO THE US, I ASKED HIM WHETHER HE WOULD LIKE US TO TRY TO ARRANGE ANY APPOINTMENTS AT THE DEPARTMENT. HE SAID

HE'D BY VERY APPRECIATIVE IF SOMETHING COULD BE ARRANGED IF ONLY IN THE WAY OF FIRST CONTACTS ON SOME OF THE SUBJECTS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO HIM. IN THIS CATEGORY HE MENTIONED THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA. (PACOSTE HIMSELF HAS VISITED A NUMBER OF ARAB COUNTRIES AND ISRAEL WITHIN THE PAST YEAR.) HE ALSO EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN MEETING WITH YOU AND ART HARTMAN, EVEN THOUGH HE DOES NOT DEAL ALL THAT MUCH WITH US-ROMANIAN BILATERAL PROBLEMS. GIVEN PACOSTE'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ROMANIA'S DEALINGS WITH LDC'S, I WOULD HOPE YOU COULD ARRANGE FOR HIM TO MAKE A BRIEF CALL ON ROY ATHERTON, BILL SCHAUFFLE, OR THEIR DEPUTIES. HIS COMMENTS ON ROMANIAN PERCEPTIONS OF PLO STRATEGY, ANGOLAN DEVELOPMENTS (WHERE SENIOR ROMANIAN PARTY OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN RECENTLY) AND ROMANIAN GROUP OF 77 AND NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT INVOLVEMENT MAY BE OF INTEREST AND I KNOW IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR HIM TO HAVE A BETTER SENSE OF OUR ESTIMATES OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATIONS THAN WE ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE HERE.

3. SO FAR AS TALKS IN EUR GO, PACOSTE AS YOU KNOW HAS BEEN THE HEAD OF THE MFA COORDINATING GROUP FOR EARTHQUAKE RELIEF ASSISTANCE AND ALTHOUGH WE FIND THE GOR SO FAR STILL UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE DEGREE OF DETAIL WE WOULD LIKE, HE PROBABLY IS ONE OF THE MOST KNOWLEDGE ROMANIAN OFFICIALS BOTH AS TO NEEDS AND TO WHAT IS BEING RECEIVED FROM ABROAD. HE TOLD ME HE WOULD BE CONTINUING IN THIS COORDINATING ROLE.

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PAGE 03 BUCHAR 02518 061110Z

SECONDLY, AS THE DEPUTY MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR CONSULAR AFFAIRS, HE IS THE ONE WITH WHOM WE NEGOTIATED THE TCP ARRANGEMENT AND WHOM WE SEE WHEN NECESSARY TO TRY TO GET MORE ACTION ON A VARIETY OF EMIGRATION OR MARRIAGE CASES. LASTLY, ALTHOUGH PROPAGANDA IS NOT HIS FORMAL FIELD, YOU WILL FIND HIM WORTH TALKING TO AS AN EXPONENT OF WHAT ANNOYS THE ROMANIAN ESTABLISHMENT ABOUT RFE.

4. COMMENT: PACOSTE IS VERY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TECHNOCRAT/IDEOLOGIST/CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER WHO HAS BEEN BROUGHT INTO A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT JOBS. YOU WOULD RECOGNIZE HIM AS SOMEWHAT OF WHAT USED TO BE CALLED THE SOVIET AGITPROP TYPE WITH THE ROMANIAN MIXTURE OF PROGAMATISM. HE HAS BEEN HELPFUL TO US ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS AND HAS THE UTILITY OF BEING VERY DIRECT AND OFTEN BLUNT. HIS MANNER IS IN DEFINITE CONTRAST TO THE MORE SOPHISTICATED AND PLEASANT GLIGAS AND MALITAS OF THIS SOCIETY. HE

DOESN'T ALWAYS LISTEN WELL SO YOU SOMETIMES HAVE TO REPEAT THINGS TO HIM BUT HE IS WELL TIED IN WITH THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE APPARATUS. ON DIVIDED FAMILIES AND MARRIAGE CASES YOU WILL GET A GOOD EXPOSURE TO THE STANDARD ROMANIAN APPROACH OF "WE'RE AGAINST EMIGRATION, BUT IN FAVOR OF SOLVING HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS." IN THE CONTEXT OF TALK ABOUT RENEWAL OF MFN, I SUGGEST YOU RAISE THE SVETLANA BOGDAN CASE (PACOSTE TOLD ME IT HAD NOT YET BEEN APPROVED AND HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN IT WOULD BE. HE SAID IT WAS LIKE THE BODNARAS CASE, THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT JUST AREN'T POSSIBLE UNTIL THEY ARE). INDIVIDUAL CASES ASIDE, I HOPE YOU WOULD PARTICULARLY STRESS THE APPROACH I HAVE BEEN TAKING WHICH IS THAT PROCESSING COULD BE SPEEDED UP. SUBJECT TO A NEW LIST OF MARRIAGE APPROVALS WHICH PACOSTE PROMISED ME IN "A FEW DAYS," MARRIAGE APPROVALS RARELY COME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 BUCHAR 02518 061110Z

THROUGH IN LESS THAN EIGHT MONTHS TO A YEAR EVEN THOUGH PACOSTE AND OTHERS TELL US THAT THEY DON'T HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THE US THE WAY THEY DO WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WHERE ALLEGEDLY ROMANIAN SPOUSES ARE OFTEN DESERTED OR MALTREATED BY THEIR FOREIGN PARTNERS. SIMILARLY ON FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASES, IT TAKES AT LEAST A GOOD YEAR FOR EVEN FIFTY PERCENT OF THOSE FOR WHOM WE INTERVENE TO GET PERMISSION AND SOME TAKE SEVERAL YEARS. INCIDENTALLY, I SEE NO REASON FOR YOU NOT TO TOUCH ON, BUT NOT STRESS, THE RAUTA SITUATION OF ONLY SO THAT YOU CAN HAVE FROM PACOSTE DIRECTLY A SENSE OF GOR FEELINGS.

5. ON RFE, YOU WILL FIND HE WILL ARGUE NOW THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS EVEN MORE CLEARLY IDENTIFIED THE US GOVERNMENT WITH THE RADIO, THERE IS EVEN LESS EXCUSE FOR OUR ALLEGING WE CANNOT CONTROL WHAT COMES OVER THE AIR. HE WILL CITE EXAMPLES SUCH AS RFE'S GIVING PLAY TO IRON GUARDIST PRIEST BOLTEANU, ALLEGATIONS AGAINST WHOM ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE AGAINST BISHOP TRIFA, OR RFE'S CONDUCTING IN GOR JUDGMENT (ESSENTIALLY A RECRUITING CAMPAIGN FOR DISSIDENTS). MY LINE OR ARGUMENT HAS BEEN TO POINT OUT (A) THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE DIFFERENCE IN CONCEPTS WHEREBY WE BELIEVE IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF INFORMATION BEING AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE AND ROMANIA BELIEVES IN LIMITING IT, AND (B) DESPITE US GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF THE RADIO THE REAL LIMITATIONS ON US GOVERNMENT ABILITY TO CONTROL ACTUAL PROGRAM CONTENT WHICH IS BIB REALM. I DID REMIND PACOSTE OF MY CONVERSATIONS WITH BURTICA WHERE I INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO SEE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF

WHAT GOR OBJECTED TO IN RFE BROADCASTS ALTHOUGH  
WITHOUT A COMMITMENT TO DO MORE THAN STUDY THEM.  
PACOSTE SAID HE THOUGHT THIS WAS A USEFUL IDEA AND  
WOULD FOLLOW UP WITH BURTICA'S SUCCESSOR IN THE RADIO  
FIELD, DUMITRU POPESCU, WHEN HE RETURNS.

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PAGE 05 BUCHAR 02518 061110Z

6. IN SHORT, BOTH BECAUSE OF OUR WORKING RELATIONS  
WITH PACOSTE AND HIS TYPICALNESS OF ROMANIAN  
OFFICIALDOM, HOPE YOU CAN ARRANGE A GOOD PROGRAM FOR  
HIM. I HAVE JUST TALKED TO NICOLAE AND TOLD HIM WHAT  
I HAVE IN MIND AND SAID I AM ASKING DEPARTMENT TO BE  
IN TOUCH WITH THE ROMANIAN EMBASSY TO FIRM UP  
DETAILS. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHAT CAN BE  
WORKED OUT AS WELL AS RECEIVING REPORT OF CONVER-  
SATIONS. MANY THANKS.

BARNES

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